

## U.L.F. & THE WAR.

Before Great Britain was plunged into war, University Labour Federation was a respected organization representative of students in sympathy with the labour movement, and many of its former members must have been surprised and disappointed when U.L.F. allied itself with the Communist Party in opposition to the war. Those who have followed the policy of U.L.F. in recent years know that they have continually called on the Government to resist Fascist aggression; and yet, now that Britain is at war to safeguard the liberties of small nations and the ideals of freedom and democracy, they declare that the war is unnecessary and imperialist. U.L.F. now appears to be an integral part of the Communist Party. The only reason for U.L.F.'s apostasy seems to be a blind obedience to the dictated policy of Moscow. This is proved by an examination of the policy of the Communist Party during the first three months of the war. On September 2nd, 1939, the day before the commencement of hostilities, the Communist Party of Great Britain issued the following statement: "If, as a result of Fascist aggression, the world finds itself embroiled in War, the Communist Party will do all in its power to ensure speedy victory over Fascism and the overthrow of the Fascist regime. At the same time it will demand and work to achieve the immediate defeat of Chamberlain, and a new Government in Britain, representing the interests of the common people and not the rich friends of Fascism. On Monday, 4th September, the *"Daily Worker"* wrote with elation in its editorial: "The War is here. IT CAN and MUST be won!" Harry Pollitt in a Party pamphlet published on the 14th September, wrote: "The Communist Party supports the War, believing it to be a just War which should be supported by the whole working class and all friends of democracy in Britain". The above statements prove beyond doubt that the Communist Party, (and therefore, U.L.F.), was perfectly prepared to support the war until the objects for which we entered upon it were achieved. But alas! Moscow did not appreciate this point of view on the part of British Workers, and the Communist Party of Great Britain was ordered to issue the following manifesto on the 7th October: "This is not a war for democracy against Fascism. It is not a war for the liberties of small nations. It is not war for the defence of peace against aggression. . . This war is a fight between Imperialist Powers over profits, colonies, and world dom-

ination". Comrade Pollitt had to resign his position as Secretary of the Party. A few weeks later, however, he appealed to the Central Committee to give him facilities for proving his "loyalty" to Stalin.

Much has been said in recent weeks about the activities of "fifth columnists". Clearly, here is a menace against which we have the right to take every precaution so that we may not be hindered in the prosecution of the war, and for this reason, we have had to intern enemy aliens. Nevertheless, the danger does not only come from pro-Nazi Germans living in this country. Hitler, who has allied himself with the Communists, must be very grateful to such organizations as U.L.F. which are fighting the battle for him from within. The members of U.L.F. regard it as their duty to remain loyal to Stalin and Moscow whatever happens; they have no pride in allegiance to king and country. When the Soviet "armies of liberation" swooped on Finland, U.L.F. did not express the same abhorrence which it expressed at the time of the invasion of Abyssinia and Czechoslovakia, in spite of the fact that the Soviet aggression was without any justification whatsoever, and was carried out with heartless brutality. U.L.F. have recently been complaining about the treatment of their *confreres*, the Communists of France, and have denounced the action of the French Government as Fascist and a grave threat to liberty and free speech. It must be realized that the Communists are their direct agents of a foreign power, and a power which is the accomplice and associate of the Government of Germany with which France is at war. Much of the work of the French Chamber is transacted in secret committees dealing with the military and diplomatic situation, matters of vital interest to the enemy. Could France allow her 72 Communist Deputies to attend these discussions feeling that the information obtained would be sent to Moscow and from there relayed to Berlin? It can be authoritatively stated that the alliance between Russia and Germany is of a wider character than many people believe. It is significant that the European headquarters of the Communists has been moved from Paris to Vienna, and that the facilities of this organization (perhaps the best informed secret service in the world) have been placed at the disposal of Germany by Russia. Some of the extraordinarily accurate information about

*continued on page 3, column 2*

## Parliamentary Debate

A debate was held on Saturday, May 18th, with the President of the Union in the chair. The subject was: That it is in the interests of both the peoples of this country and of India that India be given complete independence forthwith.

Mr. Krishna Menon opened the debate for the motion in general terms. Present conditions, he said, demanded a complete reorganisation of the administration; the existing administration had failed to cope adequately with India's main problem—hunger. The responsibility of Empire, and its maintenance, lay upon the people's shoulders: in spite of the fact that India had had no invasion since the British conquest, military occupation had taken from the workers of this country an immense toll in lives.

India had experienced to a vast degree a political and social awakening: she was being dragged into this "War for Freedom", yet her freedom was denied her. Those who were fighting for democracy in the West should not withhold it from the peoples of the East. The future of India must be decided by the democratic vote of the Indian peoples. The only objectors to this solution were the small but important elements whose interests were served by the continuation of the present system. They include the privileged Indian landlords, the ruling class of Europeans and the Moslem League, whose differences with the Congress were based on political, not on religious grounds. Numerically, however, these opponents were in a minority: it was evident that the great majority of the Indian peoples supported the claims of the Congress, and that an immediate solution could be attained.

In opposing, Mr. Kussuff Ali laid great stress on the word "forthwith". From a practical viewpoint independence was at present impossible for India; she was not a nation-state, in the sense that her peoples had one "political mind". There were the Hindus, with their numerous castes, the Moslems, the Untouchables, ineligible for Congress, and oppressed by caste distinction. Should the Hindus, not an absolute majority, be given virtual domination over the minorities? The Moslem League, Mr. Ali affirmed, truly represented Mos-

lem opinion. He denied that the landlords were powerful, quoting one example in the United Provinces to show that they were in favour with neither the Government nor their tenants. The Europeans, a small but influential class, were diminishing in importance; yet they, and their trade, were essential to India. More and more, Indian trade was becoming the affair of the Indian himself, and the Europeans were glad of it.

Mr. Ali would welcome independence, but it must not endanger the customs of the peoples: in insisting on being masters in their own house the Congress must not forget that in India there was no unity. Any change must not jeopardise the interests of the Moslem Section. Change was inevitable—particularly amongst the workers, who were becoming dissatisfied with Congress. The problem of health would be modified as education improved, and India would by the same means work out her own destiny. The interests of England were bound up with the Empire, with an India prosperous and happy.

The speeches from the floor showed that many people had a keen interest on the subject: it was pleasing to note truly individual opinions, besides the usual orthodox attitudes. Among the points put forward was Mr. Lintott's statement that British policy had always been to relieve distress: the problem of famine had been overcome by the development of communications and extensive irrigation; and that slowly, through education, India was growing into Dominionhood. Mr. Smith condemned the exploitation of workers, the huge literacy, long hours, and the supremacy of the Governor-General. Mr. Jackson advised the division of India, with "hostage" minorities, emphasising the racial distinctions of the peoples.

The motion was carried by 21 votes to 17.

### APOLOGY.

We must apologise for an error in the printing of Professor Forsey's article; the second period should have read: "When therefore from time to time I read in Wessex News of the approaching dissolution of the social or academic order, I am not unduly disturbed.

# WESSEX NEWS

Tuesday, May 28th, 1940.

Editors: STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON  
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## Editorial

It seems to be a necessity for democratic states to set up a sort of Dietatura in time of war to preserve cohesion; but there is always the danger, or rather the fear, in countries which are neither purely democratic nor purely oligarchic that the "Rulers" may contrive to introduce a permanent alteration of the constitution under the guise of guarding against the present perils. This is not frequent, and would be dangerous in the extreme—for every faction in such a state is eager in the safeguarding of the wellbeing of the polity, i.e. the wellbeing of the faction itself. It is in state crises that the advantage of a free press becomes more apparent—free speech is often too risky (see Fougasse)—for writers of every shade of opinion will press into print to demonstrate and prove with all the trappings of circumstance, evidence and inference that the other parties are, every man jack of them, scoundrels and blackguards—apart from their being blockheads and fools. This is all to the good, for anyone, however pacific he be, when accused of a moral offence, will hasten to take up arms and the law against the accuser, but accused in his political opinions will merely spill gallons of ink and fill columns of print (to the Editor's joy) in his defence—we speak, of course of the halls of enlightenment and learning. Even where a political issue is elsewhere taken to the courts, it will probably be used by both plaintiff and defendant to get their political views printed in columns where otherwise they would not be mentioned without contumely and despite, not realising, or caring perhaps, that they are not only offending against good taste, but are also calling down general ridicule upon themselves.

Elsewhere political meetings have been banned; let us hope that here we may continue our amical relations in Commonroom, Refectory and Hall, while in print we antagonise each other.

Certain good people have been at extraordinary pains to explain to us why Members of utterly opposing parties maintain excellent relations outside the House—we could not therefore be puzzled at seeing a certain prominent Conservative and a certain prominent Socialist sitting amiably together at a recent debate—supping with the devil seems rather to be an extreme way of giving the devil his due—or perhaps our friends, blind to their surroundings, refuse to give the devil his due.

## Correspondence

To the Editor of "Wessex News." Dear Sir,

It is unfortunate that the attacks upon Mr. Campbell Matthews printed in the last issue of *Wessex News* should have appeared when he himself is no longer in a position to reply to them. Since it is essential that these attacks should be answered, I will try to do so.

It is strange that Mr. Cattmull, who is, I believe, the Secretary of the Conservative Association, should complain of the apathy of students. His Society has held, so far as I am aware, only one open meeting this Session. Campbell Matthews, I know, felt very strongly about this apathy; but he, at any rate, did all he could to break it down. The same certainly cannot be said of the Conservative Association. That the account of the N.U.S. Congress published in *Wessex News* was not in the least a distortion of the facts is shown by its similarity to the reports in such publications as *Student News*, and by that given at a Union meeting by Miss Strungell, our other delegate. Our two delegates were appointed by the Students' Council, a body which even Mr. Cattmull could scarcely call "Communist," in spite of the slack way in which he uses the term (people like him used the word, as a term of abuse, to describe the late Ramsay MacDonald, and even, I believe, Mr. Lloyd George.) Had it not been for the work of Mr. Matthews not more than a handful of people in College would even have heard of the Congress. This fact alone, in my opinion, made him the best delegate we could have chosen.

Professor Adam is rather more difficult to answer. For one thing he writes at far greater length, and his arguments are, on the surface, quite convincing. Where I would disagree with him is in what I would call his tendency to see things, not as they are, but as he would like them to be. He does not like the term "master and pupil" applied to a University—but that is precisely the attitude of students towards staff and staff towards students which actually exists in a very many cases. He forgets that Students come up from school with a kind of "hang over" of blind "respect" for authority—the kind of respect which means the rather grudging obedience to all orders from above whether they are considered to be reasonable or not. Freshers are accustomed to a "master and pupil" relationship, and the tragedy is that little or nothing is done to get rid of this state of mind. The result is that this attitude remains for a considerable time, making co-operation between students and staff far more difficult than it ought to be. I, for instance, after two years in College had scarcely spoken to a member of staff. I might be inclined to believe that this was my own fault, were it not for the fact that I see many other people

## CORRESPONDENCE—cont.

in precisely the same position. Obviously the first move to get rid of this state of mind must come from the staff, and it is to be regretted that most of them do little in this respect. They still tend to maintain their position as superiors and not as equals. They may discuss a question with students, but they retain the decisive voice. I have seen lectures order students out of lectures for not wearing gowns or for being late; but I have yet to see the opposite happen. The staff are still the masters and the students the pupils, in spite of Professor Adams refusal to face the fact.

And it is upon a denial of this fact that his whole argument depends. I can well believe that he is quite anxious, as Mr. Matthews and I to see closer co-operation, on a basis of equality, between staff and students, but he will do little towards achieving this by closing his eyes to the actual state of things in this College.

RONALD SMITH.

To the Editor of "Wessex News." Dear Sir,

In the last issue of *Wessex News* there was an article headed "Post Mortem", which was a "report" of a Union Meeting held on 3rd May. I should have no objection to this article appearing in *Wessex News*, if there had been, at the same time, an official report of that meeting. As *Wessex News* is the official paper of the Students' Union I think that a Union Meeting should be reported seriously for the benefit of readers outside the Union, and especially readers in other Universities. In the report printed there was no record of the resolutions that were passed at that meeting.

I should like to suggest that if a report of a Union Meeting is required for *Wessex News*, the Secretary of the Union should be asked to give a résumé of the minutes of that meeting.

D. S. ARMSTRONG.

To the Editor of "Wessex News." Sir,

We conclude from his letter in the last edition of *Wessex News* that Mr. Cattmull is not acquainted with the reason why Mr. Matthews was sent to the N.U.S. Congress, and we feel that the following explanation is necessary.

When war broke out N.U.S. realised, as did other progressive institutions, that "everything we value most is in danger of destruction," and that the internal problems of the Universities and the function of the Universities in the modern world required urgent consideration.

So a Congress was planned (and held during the Easter Vacation) to discuss these issues. Some of the major considerations at the Congress were: why we are at war, the conditions of peace, the future of India, the function of the University, and the problem within the Universities in wartime.

continued in next column

## CORRESPONDENCE—cont.

In order that student opinion throughout the country should be represented, all the Universities were invited to send delegates; and with the object of co-ordinating discussion and avoiding irrelevancy on these many and wide issues, it was suggested that co-ordinating committees be set up in all Universities. The function of these committees was to hold open meetings on general issues, and to stimulate political, religious and faculty societies to discuss their respective aspects of the problems introduced by hostilities, and to obtain reports from these societies, and hence the general consensus of opinion in the University. These general opinions were to be conveyed to the Congress by delegates.

In the larger Universities the co-ordinating committees were very active; here, for one reason and another, nothing was done until Mr. Matthews approached the Students' Council. The S.C. then authorised the setting up of a co-ordinating Committee and Mr. Matthews was appointed chairman. Owing to the early closing of last term, the committee did little—but it is to the credit of Mr. Matthews that anything at all was done.

Miss Strungell and Mr. Matthews were appointed by the officials of the Union to represent this Union at the Congress.

We should like to make clear to those who have not taken sufficient interest in Union affairs to realise it already, that Mr. Matthews was responsible for awakening the Union to the fact that the Congress was to be held; and that he worked energetically to get the co-ordinating committee functioning. It was because of his active interest in Student affairs, and his knowledge of the problems introduced by the war, that he was one of our delegates at the Congress.

In conclusion, may we ask whether those who deplore apathy in this Union have studied the Congress Report.

K. NEVILLE REED.  
C. T. REED.

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## Book Review

THE LITTLE MERMAID by  
PHILIP SYLVESTER.  
(Publ. H. SECKER).

It should be an inspiration to all of us that an old student has written such a delightful book as "The Little Mermaid". Hans Andersen's tale lends itself very easily to poetical treatment, and Mr. Sylvester has retained the directness and the pathos of the original.

But it is rather on the pictorial side that I wish to dwell. Mr. Sylvester makes a most effective use of colour—he is particularly fond of the strong colour tones. He speaks of blue, green, gold and blood-red. True, there is a certain gaudiness, which even the occasional brushes of grey, hazel and clover cannot entirely relieve. But I found the arrangement of colours amazingly decorative. There is a blatant lustre of gold, silver and jewels. In fact, the whole poem is permeated with an impression of barbaric wealth and metallic splendour. Even dancing girls are "diamond purchased."

Mr. Sylvester has the happy faculty of crystallising a description into a line, as when the Mermaid appears:  
"Through the last gauzes of the sunset foam,"  
And the brief, but adequate description of the rocket as  
"A light that leaps into a hundred stars."

The wonderful impression of space given by:  
"Along the summer sky the great down spans,"

But he is seen at his best in "The Curse" which is written with obvious sincerity:

"Beauty I curse you! on your mirages of downland, village green of sunlit mill of bridge, of harbour and sequestered stream My life lied wrecked!"

But he mentions flowers too frequently; lilies, wild-roses and peonies appear and reappear with all the monotony of a wallpaper pattern. He makes an excessive use of flower-images. The stream

*continued in next column*

**BOOK REVIEW—continued.**  
is "flower-quilted" a very vivid phrase. But when we read of "petal-hands" and "petal-feet" we can only plead: "Good sire, namooore of this."

Then he adopts far too many unfamiliar words. There is a free sprinkling of chalcidony, tourmaline, chioding and chraetodon, which tend to make the poem ridiculous.

Humour, as is to be expected, does not find much place in the poem. There is only one amusing comment in:

"Now with the prince are only closest friends have leave,"

For in late summer courtiers with its probable allusion to present day schemes for staggering holidays.

So much for the poem in general. But I confess Book III baffles me. It is supposed to be the dream of Meisyr, but it is more like a poet's nightmare. I hesitate to assume a Jeffery-like attitude: "This will not do, Mr. Sylvester," but it is clear that his occasional monosyllables and his insistent dots do not give the impression of a vague, intangible dream.

Nevertheless, "The Little Mermaid" is a charming poem with very harmonious verse. It remains a challenge to succeeding generations of Hartleyans.

W. P. WROATH.  
This book is to be placed in the Student Library.

**U.L.F. and THE WAR—continued**  
British industries reaches Berlin through this channel.

The preceding paragraphs illustrate the treacherous and inconsistent policy of the Communist Party with which the anaemic intellectuals of U.L.F. are associated. The publications of U.L.F. declare with one voice that this war is not in the interests of the workers. This argument will deceive no-one.

Britain embarked upon the war in order to put an end to German aggression in Europe, and to safeguard the liberties of free speech and thought for the peoples of the world. We are fighting in order that Europe shall be liberated from the lowering menace of Hitlerism which seeks to force its insidious doctrines not only on Europe, but on the whole world, although we do not seek to prevent countries from governing themselves according to their own choice. It does not matter to us if a country chooses to be governed by totalitarian methods, but we do object when totalitarianism is forced upon small European countries which desire to live on democratic lines; and which do not wish to be told by the state which books they must read, and which books they must not read; and which music they may listen to; and which evenings they must spend drilling at the local Nazi centre. Britain does not seek any material gain as an outcome of the war. All we demand is that Poland

*continued in next column*

**U.L.F. and THE WAR—continued**  
and Czechoslovakia shall regain their independence along with Norway, Denmark, Belgium and Holland—the latest victims of German lawlessness. When we emerge victorious from this war, the countries of Europe will be able to travel along the common road to social betterment and equality for opportunity and to enjoy the fruits of civilization, governed, not by a reckless tyrant, but by democratic governments which realize that Europe's future lies in co-operation, and in service to the cause of humanity.

G. DAVID LINTOTT.

## Afterthought on a University Education

Now that it's over  
And that our rebellious posture  
Is matter for nostalgia:  
Now that the future  
Is no longer a décor,  
But simply our endurance:  
Now we have no room  
For arrogant gesture  
And the poets' leading  
Their excited lives:  
What does it amount to  
And what did we strive for?  
Say this:  
We did not believe in phoney  
dignity and always  
Had a genuine dislike for the  
official songs.  
MARTIN BELL.

## S.C. Meeting

Resumé of Minutes of S.C. Meeting held on May 17th.

Mr. Counsell was in the chair. Correspondence: The Peace Discussion Group asked to be recognised as a College Society.

Proposed Mr. Studd: That the P.D.G. should be recognised in the same way as any other College Society, such as Conservative Society or Labour Club. This was carried by 11 votes to 1.

Formation of Committee to arrange the Co-ordination of Student activities with the various Youth Organisations in Southampton, as decided in the Union Meeting of May 3rd. 1940.

The President and Vice-President of this and next Session, and the N.U.S. Secretary were appointed.

Report of Union Ball and Presentation of Provisional Balance Sheet; Mr. Stemp reported cost of £20 18s 9d. for the Union Ball, which was £3 18s. 9d. above the estimate. This did not however include any contribution from the Athletic Union.

D. S. ARMSTRONG.  
Acting Secretary.

The Editor regrets that owing to lack of space he is unable to print all the copy received.

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## SPORTS

## MEN'S ATHLETIC CLUB.

U.C.S. 71. R.A.S.C. 33.

The first match of the season resulted in a win for the College. The most outstanding performance of the day was the 220 yds. won by Loader in 22.2 secs., equalling the Student Ground Record.

Reading 40; Bristol 37; U.C.S. 21; Exeter 20.

Despite the curtailment of U.A.U. activities, the Southern Quadrangular was held at Bristol on May 15th. Very bad weather made good performances impossible and the enforced intervals caused the match to be of unusual length. The absence of Wallace had a very noticeable effect on the results, but even his presence would probably have had no effect on the final order.

## Results:—

100 yds. 1. Bristol; 2. Exeter; 3. Bristol;  
Javelin. 1. Reading; 2. Bristol;  
3. C.T. Reed;  
Shot. 1. Reading; 2. Bristol;  
3. Mockrell.  
220 yds. 1. Loader; 2. Bristol;  
3. Exeter. Time 22.9 secs.  
High Jump. 1. Reading;  
2. C.T. Reed; 3. Bristol.  
Height 1 mile. 1. Bristol; 2. Reading;  
3. Dyer; Time 5 mins. 0.5 secs.  
Hurdles. 1. Reading; 2. Bristol;  
3. Exeter.  
Long Jump. 1. Bristol; 2. Reading;  
3. Exeter. Distance 20ft. 9 ins.  
880 yds. 1. Reading; 2. Wood;  
3. Exeter. Time.  
440 yds. 1. Exeter; 2. Bristol;  
3. Loader.  
Discus. 1. Reading; 2. C.T. Reed;  
3. Mockrell.  
3 miles. 1. Bristol; 2. Reading;  
3. Exeter.  
Relay. 1. Exeter; 2. Reading;  
3. U.C.S.

U. C. S. 37; Eastleigh A. C. 35;  
R. A. S. C. 6.

On Saturday the Athletic Club beat the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, Portsmouth, by 62 pts. to 57. This is the first time within memory that we have beaten the Navy on their own

ground. The Navy's team was the weakest we have met at Pitt Street, particularly in the field events. The Navy had a new-comer, Loaving of Canada, who was a finalist in both the 400 metres flat and hurdles at Berlin in 1936.

Wallace won the hundred in 10.4, beating Loaving by 4 or 5 yards. In the 880 yards Wood and Dukes went into the lead from the start, and although Wood was challenged he retained his lead to win by a wide margin, with Dukes some way out 3rd. Our high jumpers could only make 5ft 0 ins from the loose take off, and the event went to a western roller at 5ft 2 ins. Fielding returned one of his best times for the hurdles despite a fall, and was second. The event was won in 16.6 secs.

In the Shot both Mackell and Fielding beat 30ft. to get second and third places. C. T. Reed won the discus by 7ft from Mackell with a throw of 105ft 4 ins—his best this season.

In the mile we had the unusual spectacle of our three runners all finishing ahead of the opposition, after Wood had made the pace. To Dyer, Wood and Cohen, congratulations!

Wallace won the long jump with 20ft. 2 ins., with Sager second.

Then came the race of the afternoon, the 440 yds., with Loader, Loaving and Wallace in the field. Loaving took the lead at the start, and forced Loader, who was trying to pass, to run wide round the first bend. Up the back straight and round the second bend they ran shoulder to shoulder with Wallace on their heels. In the home straight Loader spurred ahead to win by a narrow margin in 54 secs. Loaving made no attempt to produce a finishing sprint—he is rather out of training.

The Navy were first and second in the Javelin by the narrow margin of a few feet; but both our throwers are improving.

The Navy, as usual, won the three miles comfortably in 16 mins 8 secs.

A good match, well contested well organised, but under indifferent weather conditions and on fairly loose track.

## CRICKET.

Reading 232 for 6. U.C.S. 1st innings 49. 2nd innings 53 for 4.

The tale of our full day match with Reading is a sad one because there are few teams which are stronger than Reading and very few which could have been weaker than ours. U.C.S., quite unusually lost the toss and had to take the field on a wicket which was perfect save for a mound at the bottom end which considerably hampered the bowlers' run-up. The bowling at first, was quite steady, but it lacked the

drive which is necessary to obtain wickets and the lunch interval found them with 105 for 3. After lunch, U.C.S. seemed to fall to pieces—all and every bowler was relentlessly floored to the boundary with a consistency that shows that Union Balls do not always have hang-overs. In this boundary mania the batsmen were occasionally assisted by certain of our fieldsmen who simply refused to use both hands to pick up a ball. In all, 3 catches were missed but there were some very encouraging patches of brilliant fielding including a very fine throw-in by Baylis which obtained a wicket—Windust, too, took his usual toll of catches, though even he had his lapses.

Our batsmen might have been impressive had they had time to show their batting finesse but they simply refused to stay in more than two or three overs, and L.A. Smith who seemed good for some runs was run out in a very short time. It must be admitted that the Reading bowling was good but it did not equal the standard of their batting and if some of our better batsmen had taken sufficient care to play a straight ball as is should be played, our score would have been more substantial. This is, to a certain extent, proved by the stand which Taylor and East made in the second innings which, while not productive of many runs, did at any rate show that their best (and worst) bowlers could be played with confidence.

If only our opening batsmen would be content with a slower rate of progress in the early part of the game and so take some of the fire out of the best bowlers, some good scores might very easily result.

As a footnote it might be added that in spite of a poor day's cricket, everyone seemed to have a good time (including Baylis).

## Results.

U.C.S. 96—6. Taunton's 94. U.C.S. 36. Haslar R.M. Hospital 59; U.C.S. 70—5. Pirelli General 61. U.C.S. 63. K.A.C. Winchester 139—9 declared.

## BOAT CLUB AT BRISTOL.

On Saturday, May 18th, the first VIII went to Bristol to take part in the Regatta arranged by Bristol University and Kings College, London. This was the first fixture the VIII has been able to secure this year owing to the war and the evacuation of the Universities. VIII's were entered in this regatta by Bristol, Kings London, Reading and U.C.S. In the first heat U.C.S. were drawn against Bristol and held the outside station with a long stroke side corner. Both boats got away to a fairly fast start with U.C.S. slightly in the lead. Rowing strongly and well together at a rate of striking somewhat slower than Bristol's, they increased it sufficiently to enable cox to take Bristol's water at the half-way

post. It was rather a risky manoeuvre as less than a quarter length separated the two boats. However, still at a lower rate of striking, the boat drew away to win comfortably by a length and a half. The crew as a whole rowed very well considering the number of last minute changes that had to be made when number seven was called up the Thursday before the race.

In the final, U.C.S. met Kings who had in their heat beaten Reading by three lengths. The race which followed was certainly worth watching. Kings chose the outside station and gained a few feet on a very fast start. This lead they held through the next half mile gradually increasing it towards the end. U.C.S. stroke increased his rate of striking towards the half-way mark and this seemed to worry some of the crew as there was a tendency in the bows and middle of the boat to surr forward, and he found it impossible to increase the rate of striking for the last spurt home. Thus, throughout—the race the positions of the boats hardly changed and Kings won by less than half a length. However, considering everything, this was a very creditable performance and the first boat is to be congratulated.

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